

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Brookland

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number State Road 1443☒ not for publicationcity, town Grassy Creek☒ vicinitystate North Carolinacode NCcounty Granvillecode 077zip code 27507

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

- ☐ building(s)
☒ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

11
1
1
13

Noncontributing

_____ buildings
_____ sites
_____ structures
_____ objects
_____ Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

Historic and Architectural Resources of GranvilleCounty, North CarolinaNumber of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this
☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the
National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☒ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

State Historic Preservation Officer

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. ☐ See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.☐ See continuation sheet.☐ determined eligible for the National
Register. ☐ See continuation sheet.☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register.☐ removed from the National Register.☐ other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic-single dwelling

Agriculture/Subsistence

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

vacant/not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Federal

Georgian

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls weatherboard

roof metal

other wood

stone

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1 DESCRIPTION

A glance north, from the front porch of the former plantation seat Brookland, takes in a swell of fields cut by a long entrance lane and a string of log and frame outbuildings; more outbuildings, and an expanse of forest-rimmed, cultivated fields, stretch to the dwelling's rear. Two stories tall, the long, heavy timber frame, weatherboarded house is bracketed by flush gable ends, elaborate patternboards and striking, cut stone chimneys. Its substantial size and refined Georgian and Federal style finish belie its early, traditional, hall-parlor plan interior. This finish, both inside and outside, retains a significant portion of its original integrity. In fair, sound condition, Brookland is representative of the county's finer, Georgian and Federal style, plantation era properties.

Four asymmetrically placed bays, including two side by side central entries, cross the house's north facing, front elevation. Both entries have doors of six raised panels which, like their flanking nine-over-nine windows, are enframed by three-part surrounds. Similar Georgian style surrounds enframe the other windows of the main block and the original one-story ell as well. Though relegated to the rear, the ell is finished with box cornices and an exterior chimney as neatly formed as those of the main block. To the rear of the ell is a one-story kitchen addition which, along with the front porch and the screened side porch to the west, date from Brookland's tenure as the center of a bright leaf era tobacco farm.

Fine Georgian and Federal style woodwork decorates the dwelling's interior, which is in good condition and intact, even though the house has been unoccupied and used for storage since the early 1980s. Flush-sheathed wainscoting, three-part surrounds and raised six-panel doors mark the two downstairs rooms and the two rooms above as well. The wainscoting of the larger of the two downstairs rooms has an additional scalloped fringe, unique among extant local dwellings, just below the chair rail. Handsome Federal style mantels, adorned with incised reeds and stars, serve the rooms on both floors. A boxed, wainscoted, straight run of stairs leads from the smaller of the downstairs rooms to the two bedrooms above. The door leading into the east facing bedroom is exuberantly wood-grained. This room also retains part of its original or early color scheme; its wainscoting has marbleized baseboards, gray stiles and mustard colored panels.

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Three of Brookland's ["A" on attached sketch map] surviving outbuildings are framed with mortise and tenon joints and predate the Civil War. A former kitchen [B] to the rear retains some beaded weatherboards and a Flemish bond, brick chimney, a feature unique among known outbuildings in the county, the chimneys of which are usually stone or, occasionally, brick laid in common bond. To the west of the house is a small former smokehouse [K]. The easternmost of the three early outbuildings was once attached to Brookland's east end, according to local tradition; it is thought to have been used as a schoolhouse in the late nineteenth century. One-story-and-a-loft tall, topped by a gable end roof and sided with beaded weatherboards, its finish matches that of the main dwelling, of which it was probably an original wing [I]. Inside, it is plastered downstairs and sided with flush boards at its loft, and it retains some flush-sheathed wainscoting and a few three-part surrounds. Its exterior also retains some similar surrounds, as well as original shutters and molded sills, at its windows. The other outbuildings on the property date from the bright leaf tobacco era. Six, built in the twentieth century prior to the end of the Depression, are of log - three tobacco barns [E,F and G], a nearby striphouse [H], a stable [L] and a hay barn [J] - and two, built at the same time, are of frame - a chicken house [D] and a smokehouse [C] set at the house's rear.

6. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Agriculture

Period of Significance

circa 1817-1937

Significant Dates

circa 1817

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

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Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Brookland is one of the earliest and most finely finished Georgian and Federal style properties in Granville County. Its interior finish includes handsomely carved Federal style mantels, three-part surrounds, raised six-panel doors, a unique scalloped chair rail fringe at the larger of its downstairs rooms and flush-sheathed wainscoting that retains some marbledized baseboards and original or early paint schemes. (See associated Property Type 1 - Plantation Era Georgian and Federal Style Dwellings) Brookland is also the county's largest and most handsome, traditional hall-parlor plan dwelling. Its finish and form are not only of merit architecturally; they also evoke - along with its pre-Civil War outbuildings - the quality of the lives of the county's wealthier, plantation era planters. (See associated Historic Context 1 - The Plantation Era in Granville County, 1746-1865, and associated Property Type 6 - Outbuildings) One of its early outbuildings - a rare surviving plantation era kitchen - is the only outbuilding in the county with a Flemish bond chimney. Coupled with its bright leaf era outbuildings, particularly those devoted to tobacco production, Brookland is also significant as a representative of a traditional method of tobacco cultivation, and accompanying way of life, that extended with little break from the last third of the nineteenth century into the 1950s. (See associated Historic Context 2 - Bright Leaf Tobacco and Rural Granville County - 1866-1937, and associated Property Type 6 - Outbuildings) The property has been in use as a traditional bright leaf tobacco farm within the past 50 years; its period of significance has been assigned a closing date of 1937, however, because it has not achieved exceptional importance within the past half century.

Charles L. and Elizabeth Read raised their plantation seat between 1817 - when Charles and his brother Howell bought a number of tracts of land totaling 1,030 acres for \$10,000 from Thomas Hunt [Deed Book Y, Page 84] - and 1818 - when Howell transferred his half interest in the property to his brother by a deed which makes reference to Charles' residence [Deed Book Y, Page 233]. Charles was one of the county's most substantial early nineteenth century planters; the 1830 federal census lists him as the owner of 53 slaves. He sold his plantation to Thomas J. Taylor in 1842 [Deed Book 11, Page 255], who in turn sold it in 1858 to Nathaniel V. and Nannie V. Watkins [Deed Book 29, Page 44]. In 1898 Nannie V. Watkins sold the house and tobacco farm to Ella S. Daniel [Deed Book 63, Page 101], whose estate sold it in 1923 to John G. Morton [Deed Book 80, Page 530]. In that same

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year Morton sold the house and farm to John H. and Ollie Newton [Deed Book 82, Page 39], in whose family it has remained, subsequently owned by bright leaf farmer Ollie H. Newton [Deed Book 88, Page 343 (1928)] and his son Horace, its present owner.

United States Manuscript Censuses. Microfilm located at Richard H. Thornton Public Library, Oxford, N.C.

☐ See continuation sheet

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)
has been requested

☐ previously listed in the National Register☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register

☐ designated a National Historic Landmark

☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings

Survey # _____

☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering

Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

☒ State historic preservation office

☐ Other State agency☐ Federal agency☐ Local government

University


☐ Other

Specify repository:

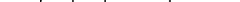
10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property approximately 23 acres

UTM References

A 
Zone Easting Northing

c | | | | | | | | | |

B 
Zone Easting Northing

D

☒ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

☒ See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

☒ See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marvin A. Brown/Architectural Historian & Patricia Esperon/Historian
organization Granville County-Oxford Historic Survey date 8/18/87
street & number P.O. Box 1556(State Historic Pres. Office) telephone 919-693-1491
city or town Oxford state N.C. zip code 27565

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	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	17	717200	4044180
B	17	716990	4044160
C	17	717020	4043970
D	17	717110	4043990
E	17	716940	4043800
F	17	717060	4043670
G	17	717240	4043800

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at point A: 17 717200 4044180 on the USGS polygon, where the south side of State Road 1443 meets the property line, continuing west approximately 800 feet, along the south side of State Road 1443, to point B: 17 716990 4044160 on the polygon, where the eastern edge of the dry creek bed meets the south side of State Road 1443. Continuing from point B in a straight line south approximately 600 feet, along the eastern edge of the dry creek bed, to point C: 17 717020 4043970 on the polygon, where the eastern edge of the dry creek bed meets the tree line. Continuing west in a straight line from point C approximately 300 feet, along the edge of the woods and through a small grove of trees to the field clearing, to point D: 17 717110 4043990 on the polygon, where the tree line turns southwest. Continuing from point D in a straight line southwest approximately 600 feet, along the edge of the woods, to point E: 17 716940 4043800 on the polygon, where the tree line turns southeast. Continuing from point E in a straight line southeast approximately 475 feet, along the edge of the woods, to point F: 17 717060 4043670 on the polygon, where the tree line turns northeast. Continuing from point F in a straight line northeast approximately 600 feet, along the edge of the woods, to point G: 17 717240 4043800 on the polygon, where the tree line meets the property line.

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Continuing from point G in a straight line north approximately 1200 feet, along the property line, to the point of origin.

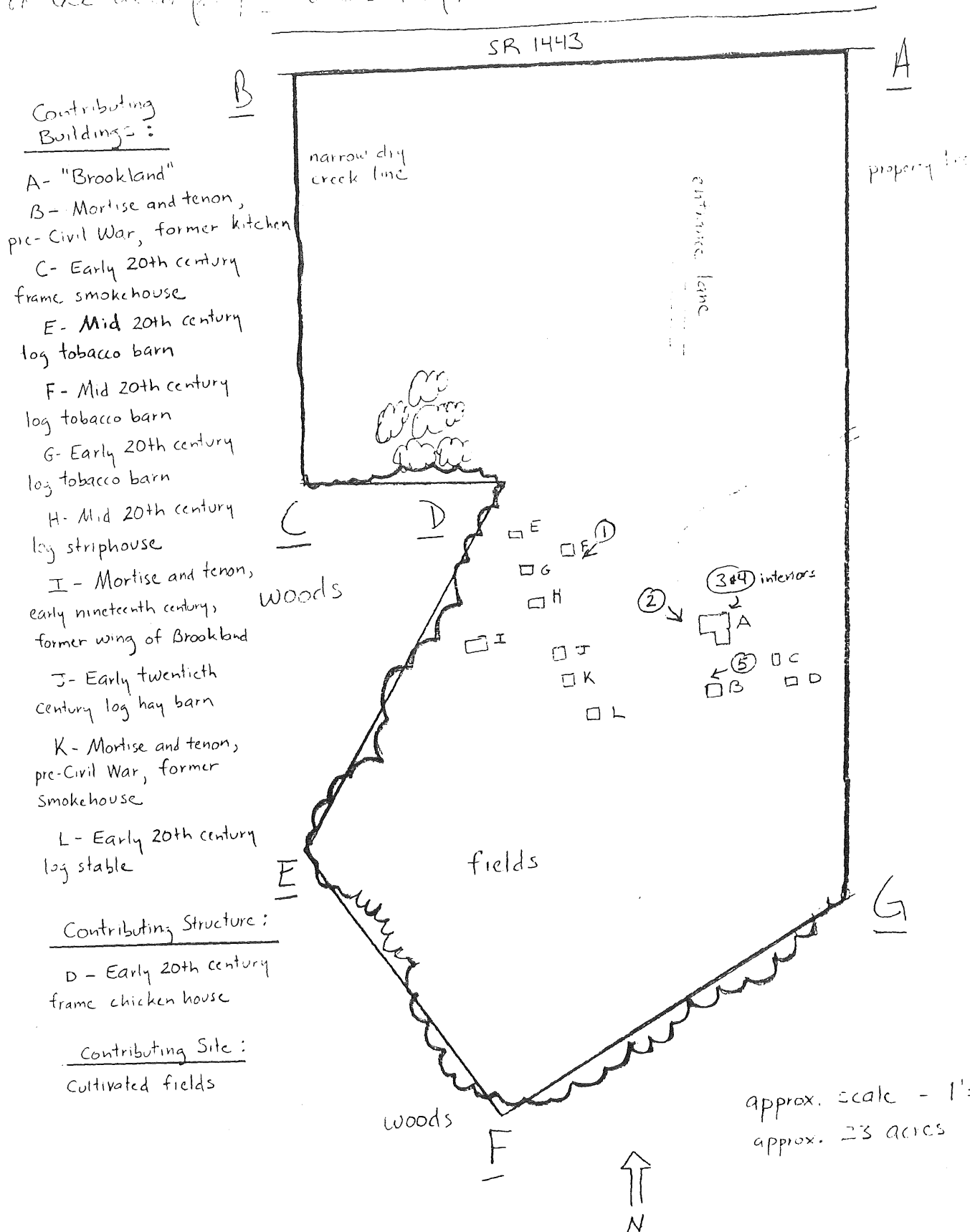
BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

Approximately 23 acres that include the dwelling, outbuildings, and fields that are historically associated with the property, maintain historic integrity, and convey the property's historic setting are being nominated for the National Register. The remaining acreage has been excluded either because of intruding structures or because it is now woodland and is no longer used for farm production. In both cases the land use has substantially changed so that it no longer contributes to the historic integrity or historic significance of the property as a plantation era or bright leaf era farm.

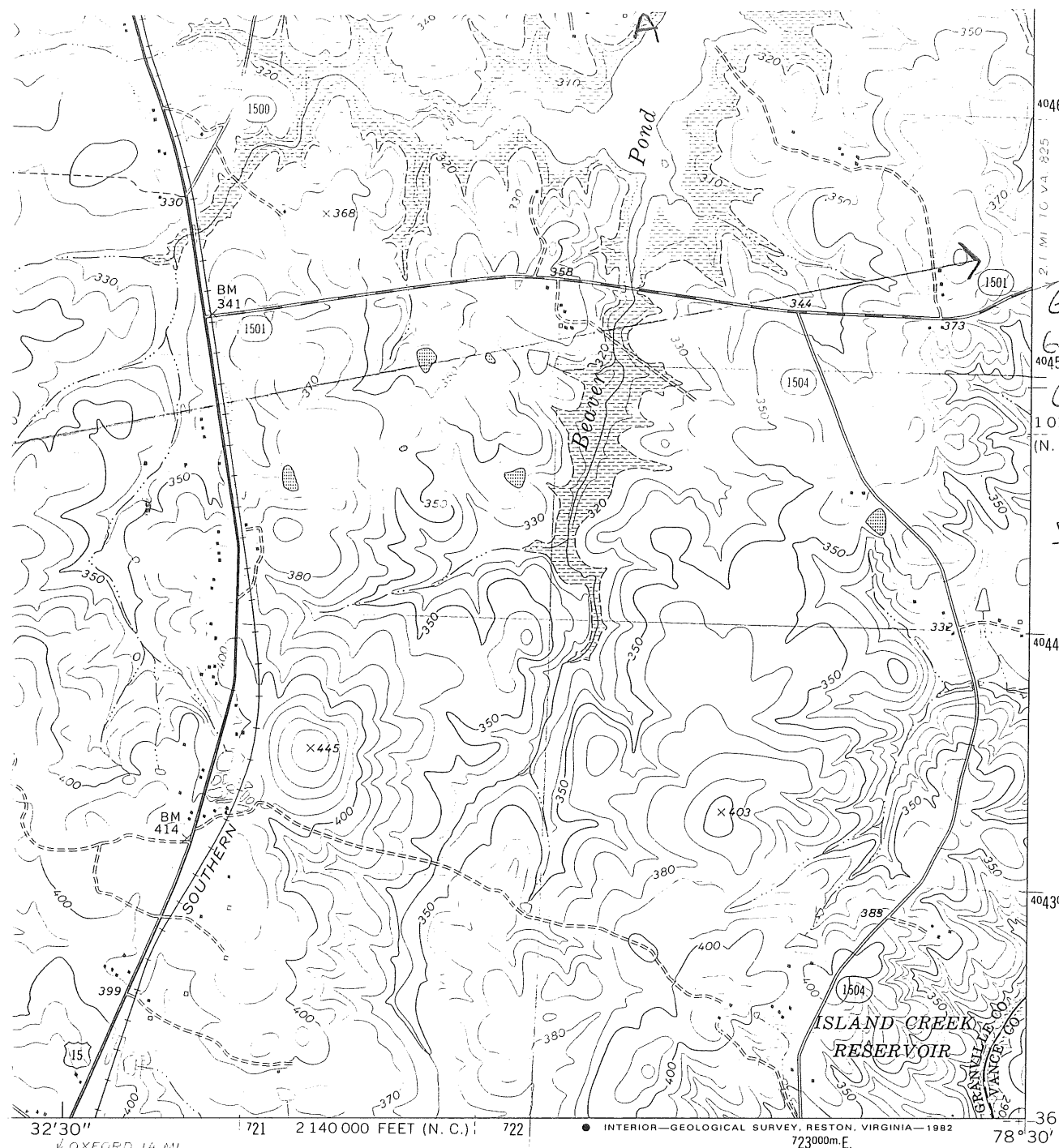
The northern boundary from UTM points A to B includes the dwelling and outbuildings to its south and excludes property that falls outside of the owner's property boundaries to its north. The western boundary from UTM points B to C includes the fields to its east and excludes a house built within the last fifty years to its west. The remainder of the western boundary from UTM points C to D, D to E and E to F includes the dwelling, outbuildings, and fields to its east and excludes woodland to its west. The southern boundary from UTM points F to G includes the fields to its north and excludes woodland to its south. The eastern boundary from UTM points G to A includes the dwelling and outbuildings to its west and excludes property that falls outside of the owner's property lines to its east.

Labels with capital letters represent the
 same references for the vertices of the
 polygon drawn to encompass the property
 in the accompanying USGS map.

BROOKLAND
 Granville County, NC



drawn by Marvin A. Brown, February, 1987



Brookland
 Granville Creek
 Granville Spring
 Quad. Clarksville
 1:24,000
 (N.C.)
 VA.-N.C.
 Scale: 1:24,000
 Zone: 17
 A: 717200
 4044180
 B: 716990
 4044100
 C: 717020
 4043970
 D: 717110
 4043990
 E: 716980
 4043800
 F: 717000
 4043670
 G: 717240
 4043800

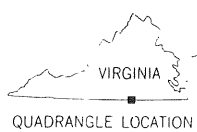
FILE

OXFORD 14 MI.
DURHAM 43 MI.

INTERIOR—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA—1982
723000m.E.

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface —————
 Secondary highway, hard surface —————
 Light-duty road, hard or improved surface —————
 Unimproved road —————
 Interstate Route (I) U. S. Route (U) State Route (S)



CLARKSVILLE SOUTH, VA.-N. C.

SE/4 CLARKSVILLE 15' QUADRANGLE
N3630—W7830/7.5

1968
PHOTOREVISED 1981
DMA 5257 II SE—SERIES V834

Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with Commonwealth of Virginia agencies from aerial photographs taken 1979 and other sources. This information not field checked. Map edited 1981

